

Remarks

Claim 23 was rejected under §112, second paragraph, and has been amended bearing the criticisms in mind. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 23-30 and 34 were rejected as unpatentable over HAWES 3,392,467 in view of MUGGLI EP 0415194 and SARKISIAN 3,646,696. The claims have been amended and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Amended claim 23 includes two substantially triangularly shaped support arms (e.g., elements 10-13 in Figures 5-7) located on opposite display faces of the panel, and at least two elastic means, where each of the two substantially triangularly shaped support arms has one side directly linked to a respective one of the display faces of the panel and an apex opposite the one side linked to a first end of a respective one of the elastic means. The proposed combination does not disclose or suggest this arrangement.

HAWES discloses substantially triangularly shaped support arms (plates 32), but these do not have one side directly linked to a respective one of the display faces of the panel and an apex opposite the one side linked to a first end of a respective one of the elastic means. In HAWES, the plates 32 are attached to lateral ends of the panel, not directly linked to a display face, and the elastic means (springs 48) are not linked to the plates 32 at all. HAWES discloses that the springs 48 are interposed

between the panel and hooks 46, but not between the plate 32 and the hooks 38 and/or the cups 36. In addition, the springs 48 in HAWES are traction springs that undergo traction, not compression; that is, one spring in HAWES undergoes traction when the panel moves, but the other does not undergo compression. MUGGLI and SARKISIAN do not make up for these shortcomings.

In MUGGLI, the support arms 113-114 are arranged under a pyramidal structure, not on the display faces. It is not clear how the teachings of MUGGLI would be adaptable to HAWES in view of the different panels and support arrangements. SARKISIAN does not appear to have either support arms or elastic means as claimed. The elastic means in SARKISIAN are arranged in the plane of the panel and undergo the same thrust when the fluid moves the panel. Again, it is not clear how the teachings of SARKISIAN would be adaptable to HAWES in view of the different support arrangement.

The Official Action mentions, but does not rely on, BRECHT 5,207,377. As mentioned in the previous response, this reference discloses several posts 116, each associated with a spring bellows 110 interposed between a mailbox and the respective post 116. The several springs and arm do not participate in fixing the mailbox on the ground due to the arrangements illustrated in the drawings, namely the anchoring means cooperating with the ground including the post and its fixing by concrete. The

artisan would not learn from this reference how to make up for the shortcomings of the above-discussed combinations.

Accordingly, the claims avoid the rejection under §103.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future submissions, to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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